

Shahin Berenji

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science
University of California Los Angeles
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EDUCATION

University of California Los Angeles

Ph.D in Political Science, September 2017

Dissertation: "Accepting Risks and Making Bold Gestures: Why Decision-makers Initiate Conciliation in Rivalries"

Committee: Deborah Larson (Chair), Marc Trachtenberg, Robert Trager, and Stanley Wolpert

M.A. in Political Science, October 2010

University of Southern California, December 2006

B.A. in Political Science, *Magna cum laude*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations Theory, Political Psychology, Diplomacy/Diplomatic History, Conflict Resolution, Foreign Policy Decision-Making, the International Relations of the Middle East and South Asia, the Cold War, and Qualitative Methodology

APPOINTMENTS

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, UCLA, Fall 2017-Present

Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, California Lutheran University, Spring 2019

Instructor/Teaching Fellow, Department of Political Science, UCLA, Summer 2015, 2016, 2017

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"Consumers and the Case for Labeling Genfoods." *Journal of Research for Consumers* Issue 13, 2007. Available: http://jrconsumers.com/Academic_Articles/issue_13/academicGEfoodethicspaper_post_review_V3.pdf

WORKING PAPERS

(Revise and Resubmit) "Accepting Risks and Making Bold Gestures: Anwar Sadat's Jerusalem Initiative"

"Engaging the Reagan Administration, from Small Steps to Bold Proposals: Gorbachev and the Windy Road to Reykjavik"

“Signaling and Reassurance: Ronald Reagan’s 1984 Peace Offensive”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“On the Brink: The War Scare of 1977”

OTHER WRITINGS

“Jimmy Carter’s Role in Securing Middle East Peace,” *E-International Relations*, April 2016. Available: <http://www.e-ir.info/2016/04/21/the-camp-david-accords-jimmy-carters-role-in-securing-middle-east-peace/>

Book Review written for *History, Politics, and Diplomacy of the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Source Document Reader*, ed. Kenneth W. Stein (Atlanta: Center for Israel Education, 2013), March 2015, Available: <https://israeled.org/product/arab-israeli-conflict/>

“Consumers & Genetically Engineered Foods,” *USC Journal of Law and Society* 3, Fall 2007. Available: <https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/232/docs/JLSVolume4.pdf>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Engaging the Reagan Administration, from Small Steps to Bold Proposals: Gorbachev and the Windy Road to Reykjavik,”

International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, April 7, 2018

UCLA International Relations Reading Group, June 2, 2017

(Presenter and Chair) “Understanding why Decision-Makers Initiate Conciliation through Bold Gestures: An Examination of Anwar Sadat’s Peace Initiatives from 1977,” *International Society of Political Psychology*, San Diego, July 5, 2015

(Co-presented with Elizabeth Goodhue, Carrier Sanders, and Molly Jacobs) “Fostering Civic, Disciplinary, and Professional Development through Academic Internships,” *18th Annual Continuums of Service Conference*, Long Beach, April 9, 2015.

“Understanding why Decision-Makers make Bold Gestures: An Examination of Sadat’s Jerusalem Initiative and its Effects on the Egyptian-Israeli Rapprochement,” *International Studies Association Annual Convention*, New Orleans, February 19th, 2015.

“Costly Signaling and Trust-Building in International Relations: Why States Over-Reassure? An Examination of Anwar Sadat’s Jerusalem Initiative,” *International Association for Conflict Management*, Tacoma, WA, July 3, 2013

INVITED TALKS

“Region in Turmoil: The Middle East and its Unending Civil Wars,” *Beyond the Headlines* Speaker Series, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of California Los Angeles, March 5, 2019

“U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East,” West Los Angeles College Annual Global Conference, October 21, 2016

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Non-Senate Faculty Professional Development Award, UCLA Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Personnel, February 2018, February 2019

UCLA Department of Political Science
Dissertation Fellowship, September 2016-June 2017

Research Grant, Summer 2014, 2015, 2016

Dissertation Research Grant in Political Psychology, UCLA Department of Psychology, Summer 2016

UCLA Graduate Division
Research Travel Grant, Winter 2015

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, Summer 2009, 2010

Middle East Studies Research Travel Grant, UCLA Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for Israel Studies, Fall 2014

Dispute Resolution Research Center (DDRC) Travel Scholarship, Northwestern University, June 2013

First Prize in the Professional Writing Category at USC's Undergraduate Writers' Conference, 2007

Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, 2006; Golden Key International Honors Society, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UCLA, Sole Instructor
World Order (PS 122A), Spring 2019

International Politics, 1914 to the Present (PS 138B), Winter 2018, Winter 2019

Foreign Policy in an Uncertain World (PS 139), Fall 2017, Fall 2018

The International Relations of the Middle East (PS 132A), Spring 2018

World Politics (PS 20), Summer 2015, 2016, and 2017

California Lutheran University, Sole Instructor
American Foreign Policy (PS 365), Spring 2019

UCLA, Guest Lecturer
World Politics (PS 20), Winter 2011

Environmental Politics and Governance (UP 160), Fall 2010

UCLA, Teaching Assistant
Political Science Civic Engagement Course (PS 195CE), Elizabeth Goodhue/Michael Thies, Center for Community Learning, Fall 2012-Summer 2016

Data Analysis (PS 6), John Zaller, Fall 2011

International Law (PS 123A), Leslie Johns, Spring 2011

World Politics (PS 20), Leslie Johns, Winter 2011

Environmental Politics & Governance (UP 260-graduate seminar), Stephanie Pincetl, Fall 2010

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research Assistant, Barbara Geddes, Summer 2011, Winter-Spring 2012
Researched authoritarian regimes (particularly those in the Middle East and South Asia) for a NSF-funded project

Editorial Assistant, *American Political Science Review*, Fall 2009-Summer 2010

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Summer Academy Fellow, June 30-July 2, 2015

Part of UCLA delegation hosted by Kuwait's Ministry of Information to learn about the political and economic developments in Kuwait and the broader Middle East, Summer 2011

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Communication Studies*

Member of the American Political Science Association (APSA), International Studies Association (ISA), and International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Language Skills: English (native), French and Farsi (Intermediate)

On-Campus Activities:

Presenter & Participant, International Relations Reading Group, 2011-12, 2015-Present

Presenter and Participant, Israel Studies Colloquium, Fall 2015-June 2017

Mentor in the Alumni Mentor Program, 2014-2015

REFERENCES

Available upon Request